

HAMPTON HILL PARISH MAGAZINE.

PAROCHIAL NOTES.

Churchwardens—Mr. W. F. Wigginton, 9, Oxford Road Teddington
Mr. B. Beckett, 35, Wellington Road, Hampton Hill.

Organist—Mr. C. Haydn-Bull, M.I.G.C.M.

Parochial Church Officer.

Mr. S. V. Forrow, 68, Sunnyside Road Teddington.

Sunday School.

Held at 11 a.m. every Sunday.

In the Parish Hall Infants—Superintendent—Miss B. Rooney.
Boys—Superintendent—Miss O. Wright.
Girls' Fellowship—Superintendent—Mrs. G. Casey

In the Club Room Senior Girls—Superintendent—Miss R. Phillips
Junior Girls—Superintendent—Miss B. Stewart

Children's Service every Sunday at 3 p.m. in Church

Missionary Association.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Cox, 6, Queen's Road, Hampton Hill.

Mothers' Union.

Monthly Meetings, First Wednesday in each month in the Club Room, 3 p.m., and Quarterly Services: Corporate Communion First Wednesday 10.30 a.m.

Enrolling Member (Temporary) Mrs. Beckett.

St. James's Youth Club.

Meetings in the Club Room, on Mondays and Fridays at 7.30 p.m.
Joint Hon. Secs.: Mrs. G. Casey and Mr. J. Sumner.

Girl Guides. Captain—Miss Cynthia Hayward.

Brownies. Brown Owl—Miss D. Proctor.

Meetings in the Club Room on Thursdays at 5.30 p.m.

Sea Scouts—"The Venture," Hampton Water Works
Group Scout Master—Mr. A. W. Lewer.

Scouts. Scout Master: Mr. G. Casey, 20, Windsor Road, Teddington

The Vicar may be seen at the Vicarage on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. and on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 6.15 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Sickness.

The Vicar will be grateful if cases of sickness are reported to him at once.

District Nurse—Mrs. S. Shaw, 5, Regina Court, Gloucester Road
Teddington

Churchyard.

Contributions towards the upkeep of the Churchyard will be gratefully received by Mr. E. Beckett, 35, Wellington Road, Hampton Hill.

Magazine.

Hon. Sec. & Advt. Sec.: Mrs. H. F. Beckett, 6, Cross St. Hampton Hill
Editor: Miss H. Stanton, 63, Park Road, Hampton Hill.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE REV.

H. A. HARPER, B.A.

My dear Friends,

I have been asked to write you a few lines in this magazine, and I am glad to have the opportunity. It enables me to express something of the pleasure I have found in ministering these few weeks at St. James', Hampton Hill. It is not easy to get to know you when I am only able to get to services on Sundays and Holy Days. But even under these circumstances I feel that some friendship does develop, not only with individuals but with the congregation as a whole.

Then this letter gives me the chance to wish you all "A Merry Christmas", which I do most cordially. We mustn't be afraid of the word "Merry", the Bible certainly isn't. There is great cause for merriment, for we are going to commemorate the greatest event in history; an event which is not only historical, but which is a reality in our lives and in the world today. The God, who 1950 years ago took our nature upon Him, has never discarded it. The Christ, who came to dwell among us, has never left us. Where there is the faithful heart, there he is present. Where there is need or repentance, there he comes. He comes, and keeps on coming, until that great coming of which the creed speaks. Love came down at Christmas, and the love of God, then so wonderfully revealed, has never left us.

So let us by all means wish each other 'A Merry Christmas', but let us not forget the inner meaning of it all. We rightly prepare for the social side of Christmas, for parties and good cheer, but there is another kind of preparation for Christmas which raises the whole festival on to a higher plane of enjoyment. What a lot of time and energy is spent in shopping and other preparations for Christmas. There is nothing wrong in that. Christmas should be well prepared for—but in more ways than one.

The right attitude, it seems to me, is not to resolve to spend an equal or greater amount of time on our spiritual preparation, but to seek for the grace that will make our preparation an act of love and devotion, expressed not only in the Eucharist and other worship,

but in the joy of the family circle, and similar festivities. The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. God and man, spiritual and the physical, were brought together for the salvation of mankind. Our response should be of a similar nature. The physical and the spiritual; social and the religious; the eating and drinking at our own tables; the eating and drinking at the Lord's Table; must all be brought under one dominating purpose of response to the love of God, so vividly and wonderfully revealed at Christmas.

Yours very sincerely,

A. H. HARPER.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OUR NEW VICAR.

The Vicar of Hampton, the Rev. C. P. C. Knapp, M.A., who is Patron of the Benefice of St. James', Hampton Hill, attended a meeting of the Parochial Church Council in the Vestry on Thursday, November 16th, and informed the Council that he had offered the living to the Rev. Rupert Hoyle Brunt, B.A., A.K.C., Vicar of St. Faith's, N. Wilford, Nottingham, and that it had been accepted by him.

In the name of the Church and Parish we extend most hearty greetings to him, to Mrs. Brunt, and their family, and pray that their coming amongst us may be richly blessed, and his ministry crowned with success.

We hope that our next issue will contain a New Year Message from our Vicar-Designate.

Edward V. Beckett

William F. Wigginton

Churchwardens.

MESSAGE FROM THE REV. F. P. P. HARVEY.

The Rev. F. P. P. Harvey wishes to thank all who contributed to the Presentation made to him on his retirement. He is most grateful to all kind friends and bids them to remember that they are ever in his thoughts and prayers.

DAYS OF SPECIAL REMEMBRANCE.

Dec. 3rd. Advent Sunday.

Dec. 10th. Collections at all Services will be divided between the C.M.S. and S.P.G., and liberal offerings

are requested from the Congregation. This decision was made by the P.C.C. because we have not been able during 1950 to receive deputations from these Societies and it is felt that some special effort should be made to contribute to this important work of the Church Overseas.

Dec. 17th. At 3 p.m. the Children's Annual Toy Service will be held when toys will be presented at the Christmas Tree, and afterwards sent as Christmas Cheer to the Church of England Children's Society. If a kind friend would lend us a set of lights for the Christmas tree for use during the Festival it would be much appreciated.

Dec. 21st. St. Thomas, A.M.

Dec. 24th. 4th Sunday in Advent. Christmas Eve. The Service of "Nine Lessons and Carols" will be held at 6.30 p.m.

Midnight Eucharist at 11.45 p.m.

Dec. 25th. Christmas Day.

Holy Communion at 8 a.m. and 12.10 p.m.

Choral Eucharist at 9.45 a.m.

Matins and Sermon, 11 a.m.

The Collections throughout the Christmas Festival are given to the Parochial Charities Funds which are used for the relief of the sick and needy of the Parish.

The Church will be decorated for the Festival on Saturday, December 23rd, commencing at 9.30 a.m. Offers of help, and gifts of flowers etc., for the decoration will be gratefully received. The flowers etc., should be sent to the Church at the time stated above.

To enable the necessary arrangements to be made, will those sick and infirm Parishioners who would like Holy Communion administered in their own home during the Christmas Season please notify the Churchwardens not later than December 16th.

P.C.C. MEETINGS.

In their recent meetings, the Parochial Church Council have been called upon to deal with confidential business appertaining to the appointment of a new Vicar. They have been happy to welcome to their meetings, the Patron of the Benefice and the very good friend and neighbour of St. James's, the Rev. C. P. C. Knapp. On the last visit, Mr. Knapp announced the joyful news that the living had been offered to the Rev. Rupert H. Brunt, B.A., A.K.C., and he had accepted.

The Council, in addition to the important business referred to, have dealt with other matters of interest to the Parish and its welfare.

The generous gift of £50 from a worshipper of the Church, in thankfulness for recovery from a serious illness, has enabled the Council to put in hand the overhaul and restoration of the Church organ, a work long overdue. The cost will be nearly £400, of which some £250 remains to be raised. It is proposed to launch

an appeal for the organ and for other very necessary work to the Church fabric, as soon as possible after the coming into the Parish of the new Vicar.

New railings (to replace those requisitioned) for the west end of the Churchyard, including a pair of iron gates, have also been agreed to and the order placed.

The matter of the War Memorial has received earnest attention and it is hoped that definite news will soon be available for publication.

The great expense of repairs and replacements has shown the great need for more members of the Free-will Offering Scheme. The Council hope that all those who have not yet joined, will give their names to Mr. J. N. Cornish, 58, St. James's Road, without delay.

The Council, in putting forward the Social programme for the winter months (details in a previous issue) have in mind the creation of a greater friendliness among the members of the Church and Parish. They therefore wish to draw special attention to the New Year's Social at the Parish Hall on 12th January, 1951.

As it has not been possible this autumn to hold the usual "Bring and Buy" Sale at the Vicarage, the Council have agreed to devote the collections on Sunday, 10th December, to the C.M.S. and S.P.G.

The resignations from the P.C.C. of Mr. and Mrs. A. Miles were received with very great regret. The Council's deep appreciation of their work in the Parish, has been duly recorded in the minutes.

Mrs. H. Beckett, Hon. Secretary of the Church Magazine, has been co-opted on to the Council.

Arrangements are being made for a key of the Church to be available at 63, Park Road, for those wishing to enter the Church for private prayer. S.V.J.F.

MOTHERS' UNION.

The next meeting will be held in the Club Room at 3 p.m. on Dec. 6th. The Speaker will be Mr. H. W. G. Baldwin, who will speak on behalf of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

We have been glad recently to have several of our older members with us: this has been made possible by the kindness of Mrs. Prentice who has arranged to bring them along in her car whenever possible.

Will members please book the date for the M.U. party, January 10th, 1951.

M. Beckett (Temp. Enrolling Member)

ALTAR FLOWERS.

During the month of December the altar flowers will be provided from the Altar Flower Fund.

ORGAN RENOVATIONS.

A special appeal for funds towards the cost of cleaning renovating the Organ is being made.

This Organ has been in use since the Church was built, having been bought as a overhauled second hand

instrument from St. Peter's, Eaton Square, where it originally stood.

In 1885 it was improved by Messrs. Bishops of Norwich and a Pedal Bourdon stop added.

In 1916 Messrs. Hale of Plymouth, rebuilt it as a three manual with adequate Pedal Organ and introduced new pneumatic actions, with Hale's patent key stops. 1931, Messrs. Harvey Willis cleaned the Organ and renewed the action. The cost of the action was defrayed by Mr. Jakeman who was Church Warden at the time.

Nothing apart from tuning has been done since 1931; dirt has accumulated and the leather work is perishing; the action motors are worn out, and as a result many notes are dumb and the mechanism is unreliable.

It has become necessary to put the work of restoration in hand immediately and to enable this to be done your help is badly needed. Donations can be sent either to the Church Wardens or myself, or small sums can be placed in the Pipe Collecting Box at the West End of the Church.

It is well known that all religious revivals have commenced with music. Charles Wesley was indispensable to John Wesley; Sankey was indispensable to Moody, and all the Welsh Revivals commenced with conversion hymns.

But if music is to be raised to its highest level of usefulness, there must be soul, technique, and a proper means of expression. That is where the Organ Builder becomes our ally, and to secure the best results we must be in possession of an Organ that is the expression of these qualities, so that the whole service may be lifted to a dignity and beauty that is otherwise impossible.

I feel certain that all who are interested in St. James's and our Services will respond to this appeal and thus be proud of an Organ, which is at least a musical instrument. C. Haydn Bull.

CHOIR BOYS XMAS TREAT.

It is hoped that all kind friends who have previously contributed to the Choir Boys Annual treat to the Circus will see that they are not disappointed this year. I shall be grateful for donations towards this outing as soon as possible as tickets have to be obtained well in advance. Please send your donations to the Churchwardens or myself. C.H.B.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PARTIES.

The Sunday Schools will be holding their Christmas Parties in January. The Infants will be having their party in the Club room, on Wednesday, January 3rd, and Father Christmas will we feel sure be passing by in his reindeer sleigh, and may stop to see the fun. The Boys and Girls Sunday Schools are having their party on Saturday, January 6th, and we know something exciting will be happening.

Donations or gifts to make these two occasions very joyful ones will be gratefully received.

SCOUT TROOP.

Now that the dark evenings have arrived, most of the Troop activities are centered in the Clubroom.

Occasionally outdoor games are played, when the darkness is an ally to friend and foe alike. With regard to future events, we would like to mention that the date of the annual bazaar has been fixed for Saturday December 9th, when we hope the Youth Club, Guides and Brownies will also have their own stalls, for the benefit of their funds. It has also been decided to start a small Cub Pack: the size will depend on the leaders available. In the meantime Skipper would like to hear of any boys, aged 9 to 10, who would be interested.

G.C.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE.

A most enjoyable whist drive was held on October 26th, at which 70 people were present. The prize table was a wonderful sight and the winners had a choice of prizes. The refreshments that were served were excellent and everyone was thoroughly satisfied.

Thanks were expressed to Mr. Sumner for acting as M.C. and to the members of the Catering Committee. Due to the generous offers of prizes and raffles a profit of £8 14s. 2d. was handed over to Church Funds.

The Dance held on Saturday, November 18th was not as successful as had been anticipated but those who attended had an enjoyable evening. At the last meeting of the Social Committee it was agreed that we hold the Fete Queen Competition again and that it would be included in the Grand New Year Social on January 12th. It is hoped that we shall be able to obtain the services of a well known Film Star to act as one of our judges. Tickets will be available shortly from any member of the Committee and we look forward to seeing everyone there and to start the year 1951 with a swing.

On behalf of the Committee may I wish all our parishioners, especially those who will not be with us at this happy time our sincere wishes for a Bright and Merry Christmas. J.S.

YOUTH CLUB.

All arrangements have now been made for our December Social programme. On December the 9th, we are holding our Grand Social and Dance in the Parish Hall, which will include plenty of Games, Dances and Competitions. Tickets are available from any club member price 2/- including refreshments.

Our Grand Xmas Ball is being held on December 27th from 7.30-11.30 at which we are including a Fancy Dress Competition which is open to anyone. The Youth Officer from Twickenham, Miss G. A. Hunter, has graciously consented to act as one of the judges.

We hope that all our friends both old and new will come along to the Hall and join in the fun with us.

THE CHURCH BELLS AND CLOCK.

The prompt response to the appeal in the October issue for help with the ringing of the bells is acknowledged, and we are indeed grateful to Mr. Harry Beckett for coming forward to do this work and help with the winding of the clock.

It is with regret that we learn that Mr. A. Christie is giving up this work which he has carried out so long, and especially that the reason is his continued ill health. Our best wishes are extended to him that his health will soon be restored.

It may not be known throughout the Parish that in order to keep the Clock going (which is, we feel, relied upon more than is generally admitted) it is necessary to wind it almost every other day, an onerous task calling for great diligence.

For some years now it has been done voluntarily, by Mr. Vickery until his unfortunate accident prevented him, also by Mr. Christie who is now having to resign.

May we therefore appeal for another volunteer who will be willing to co-operate with Mr. H. Beckett and do this service for the Church and Parish?

CARING FOR THE LEPERS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

My address was an Institution. Ten miles within its boundary I reached it. It was a beautiful corner of trees, shrubs and flowers, a blaze of colour before the bungalow where lived the three Nursing Sisters. At the end of the garden were the well built wards, operating theatre, many pairs of houses for the patients, stores, kitchens, laundry, school, creche, shop, up the hill the churches and beyond the staff compound.

The 120 patients have the same beauties of nature around them. They are forced to be there. Their relations can visit them twice a year, sitting apart. Some must end their days there. Numbers have a good chance of returning home with a discharge certificate. Many have done so over the years. With money for the use of quicker acting powerful new drugs more ought to have that joy. It is not their fault they have contracted leprosy. Children are very likely to develop it, if they remain in contact with the disease, even more so if they remain undernourished, living in overcrowded insanitary conditions and weakened by other diseases, unhappy and later perhaps outcast.

South Africa helps support the family if a parent undergoes treatment for leprosy, and for a time on his return. If at one of his future examinations he is found to need a short course of treatment again, he will return.

One patient who came back to have a toe removed, and so stop more bone rotting and the leprosy becoming worse, was a dignified old chief. He came proudly in the ambulance and went away after a short stay even more proudly escorted by a large retinue on horseback. He had been so busy in the ward learning to read. He did not join in the general class, but had private tuition from Freddie in the next bed.

An occasional witch doctor patient tries to obstruct the work. I have felt the power of evil and shared in the joy when the power of good has overcome it.

At least once a year at the 'Board Meeting' visiting doctors examine all the patients. Afterwards the Sister in charge will say "Such a fine crowd to go home, but what will I do about helpers? I will have no hospital cook or laundry woman, no ward orderlies, dressers, headwomen, police or committee, and who can I have to be house mother for the girls?" Somehow they are selected from among the remaining patients and trained.

The children have excellent training and become devoted to their duties and interested in their treatment. One bandages the sores of the others, several pound mealies (maize) for the cripples, one sews for the fingerless and two little girls will be one another's comforters as they have their injections. They play as well, sing and dance and have their own entertainments.

One little girl, Daliswa, was too crippled to dance and too ill to sing when she arrived. Gradually she improved. She was happy then and sang and made friends. She rode in the donkey cart to Church and when she could use her crutches Daliswa left the ward and joined the Girls Home and Day School.

The teacher, and ex-patient, has for friends the healthy young women who look after the uninfected babies of patients. Such a happy place the creche is—the toddlers are just delightful. Their parents see them twice a week and proudly note them through the wire netting getting strong and big. When they are about 2 years old they will go to relations and their parents hope soon to rejoin them.

Most days of the week the patients can be found fairly easily. They may be around the hospital or the house of rest for the invalids, or one of the compounds or gardens. They may be in either of the two well built churches of the Methodists or Anglicans. On Saturdays, however, we may have to go a good walk down to the sea to find some. Different groups take it in turn to have the ox-waggon, and do they enjoy their outing! So do the Sisters and the dog on their stretch of smooth sandy river mouth or rocky headland. Well refreshed, they return.

R. Wright.

NOTE:

It is with great pleasure that we have, in this issue of our Magazine, been able to find space for the first instalment of Miss Rachael Wright's articles on her work in a leper colony—from which she returned last year.

I think it is particularly suitable at Christmas time, when we attach so much importance to festivities in our homes, to think of these people who through illness are separated from their homes. May we remember very specially the lepers in our Christmas Prayers.

Ed.

NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR.

Many members of the congregation will be delighted to welcome Mrs. Brunt, the wife of our new Vicar, as an old friend. Before her marriage she was Miss Middlemiss and taught at the Lady Eleanor Hollis School. We shall all be looking forward to meeting her with the greatest of pleasure.

We welcome Mr. and Mrs. Barrett back to our parish after their visit to South Africa. We hope that they have had a very enjoyable visit abroad, and that we shall be able to hear something about it in due course.

We are very glad to hear that Mr. Cox is better after his recent ill-health. Mr. Cox has been a sidesman for many years, and many people miss him from the church. We hope he will soon be well enough to come again to our services.

At this very special season of the year we want to send most sincere greetings to all the friends who have been connected with St. James in the past. We send our love and best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Harvey, Mr. and Mrs. Pooley, Mr. Sturt and Mr. and Mrs. Miles have all moved away from Hampton Hill in recent months, and we want to assure them of our good wishes. We shall always welcome news of these and other dear friends of our Church.

Ed.

CHRISTMAS CONUNDRUM.

From "A Christmas Carol".

The Ghost of Christmas Present unquestionably showed Scrooge the Cratchits eating goose; as unquestionably, Scrooge on Christmas morning sent a boy in a cab to Camden Town carrying to them the big prize turkey, which that admirable boy described as "as big as me". On which bird did the Cratchits really make merry or was it on both?

The Times. 18.11.50.

A CAROL FOR CHILDREN.

Joyfully, Joyfully
Carol Christmas bells;
Merrily, merrily
Carol Christmas bells;

Christ our Lord was born today,
Let us all be glad and say
We will love Him and obey,

Joyfully, joyfully
Carol Christmas bells.

Joyfully, joyfully
Carol Christmas bells;
Merrily, merrily
Carol Christmas bells;

Here around the Christmas tree

All our hearts are glad and free
While we carol lovingly
Joyfully, joyfully
Carol Christmas bells.

SHORT STORY.

An earnest and eloquent lay preacher was expounding the parable of the Prodigal Son. Riotous living in a far country proved expensive and so wasted his substance that, in dire poverty, he was driven to extreme measures:—

"First he sold his coat, then he sold his shirt and then at last, my friends, he came to himself".

THE SUMMER FETE.

As promised we give the Financial Result of the Fete held on the 1st July.

Takings from Stalls, Sideshows, Refreshments, etc., amounted to £201 9s. 9d. and after deducting Expenses £75 19s. 11d., the sum of £125 9s. 10d. was added to Church Funds.

A complete statement is posted in the Church Porch for all who wish to know further details.

BURIALS.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord".

November 15th. Catherine Curtis, aged 73 years.